

INTERNATIONAL
LONGSHORE &
WAREHOUSE UNION



MARINE CLERKS ASSOCIATION
LOCAL 63 LOS ANGELES and LONG BEACH HARBORS

350 WEST 5TH STREET, SUITE 200

SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA 90731

BULLETIN – FEBRUARY 2008

JAMES C. SPINOSA
PRESIDENT

MEETINGS – March 6, 2008 – 6:00 p.m. – Regular Membership Meeting
 March 6, 2008 – 11:30 a.m. – Grievance Procedure Class
 March 11, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. – Grievance Committee Meeting
 March 12, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. – District Council Meeting
 March 18, 2008 – 5:30 p.m. – Work Card Committee Meeting
 March 19, 2008 – 12:00 Noon – Promotions Committee Meeting
 March 20, 2008 – 5:30 p.m. – Executive Board Meeting

DUES AND ASSESSMENTS – the total amount of dues paid in 2008 was \$2928.00 (\$244.00 per month) plus a total Coast CPRC amount of \$234.00 for a grand total amount paid of \$3162.00. Any member who was either not a member for the entire year or was off due to an excused disability should multiply the above amount(s) times the number of affected months they paid these figures to the Local. Members should use this information to calculate their individual total amount paid.

COAST PRO RATA & INTERNATIONAL PER CAPITA – as per Membership election results in December 2007, effective January 1, 2008, the new amount of sick dues owed by members who are on disability is \$75.46. This amount is not held at the Local level but is forwarded to the International for the following purposes - International Per Capita (\$24.46/month): funds the International, organizing, ILWU library and archives, education, and international relations; Coast Pro Rata (\$51/month): funds the Longshore and Clerk Contract administration, contract negotiations, contract arbitrations, Coast programs and committees including Education, PR, Safety, Pension and Welfare, Clerks' jurisdiction.

VACATION CLAIMS – the final claim deadline for members needing to file for additional week(s) due to disability status in 2007 is May 23rd with a June 13th distribution date. Members who have not already filed with the business office should do so by this date.

PAID HOLIDAY – MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2008 – CESAR CHAVEZ BIRTHDAY – is an automatic holiday for those members who worked 1300 hours (1200 if over age 60) or more in 2007. For those who did not meet the automatic holiday hours requirement, you must be available for work at least two of the four days, Tuesday through Friday, April 1st – 5th. Only those members who worked at least 800 hours (700 if over age 60) in 2007 are entitled to receive or file claims for paid holidays.

JURISDICTION – based on the erosion of Section 1 by superintendents, the Local will be posting a sign-up list for members willing to perform 1st, 2nd, and 3rd shift jurisdictional business agent work and will also create a job stewards assignment program. The posting will be up in the Dispatch Hall from March 1 – March 15, 2008.

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CONSTITUTION – at the upcoming next two Membership Meetings a hand-out will be given to the members which rewrites portions of the Local 63 Constitution's Appendix - Section 1. Meetings; Article VIII, Section 1. Charges and Trials; Article III, Section 9. Grievance Committee and an addition of an Article XVII, Working & Dispatch Rules. As many members are aware our Constitution is very old and needs updating. The Officers' goal is to take each section individually over the next year to bring the language up to date.

DUES – the PCCCD's Section 19 – Union Security – is very explicit as to a member's responsibility regarding the payment of dues. The Local will have a zero tolerance rule for members not paying dues in a timely manner.

POLITICAL ACTION – our goal for the 2008 presidential campaign was \$1 million. The Membership coastwise stepped up and exceeded our 2007 goal of \$400,000. Now in order to reach our \$1 million mark we need to raise \$450,000 for 2008. Please donate what you can; the ILWU must have a voice for labor in Washington D.C.!! Note: for members who have already contributed over \$500 and are waiting for their jackets, please be patient; the International in San Francisco has taken over this process and the transition has created some lag-time in deliveries.

50/50 RULE – the grandfather clause allowing companies to employ more than 50% of their tower clerks as steadies does not allow a clerk marked "home" on an overtime day following the 15th of the month to be reassigned to another steady position. If you are not asked to return to the tower as part of the 50/50 and you choose to work, you must come to the Hall based on the JPLRC Agreement.

PAID VACATIONS – by Executive Board action, the deadline to pay for 2007 vacations that were not taken will be extended until March 31, 2008.

2008 CONTRACT – with 5 months remaining on the 2008 contract, it would be prudent to begin preparing your personal finances in anticipation of the July 1st date.

CAUCUS REPRESENTATION – the Local 63 representatives for the 2008 contract are John Tousseau - Negotiator, Jim Spinosa – Alternate Negotiator, Adrian Diaz – Safety Committee.

DISABILITY – please provide the business office with proper written medical documentation when going out on disability. It is also essential BEFORE returning to work that you check with the office staff to confirm that your dues are current and accurate as well as that the exact return to work date is provided. Too many members are returning to work without notifying the business office resulting in inaccurate billing statements and delinquency in dues payments.

VACATION OVERAGES – approximately 30 members have violated the vacation rules by showing more vacation time on their work cards than they were eligible to take. Checking in on vacation hours when you have exhausted your given weeks is a *chiseling* violation. These members will be cited to the Grievance Committee for disciplinary action.

SAFETY – please be aware that ALL marine clerks must be wearing the approved safety vest prior to entering any marine facility.